

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 were pending in the instant application. Claims 3-8, 20-24, and 34-38 have been canceled and new claim 39 has been added. Claim 1 has been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 9-19, 39, and 40 are pending in the instant application. Applicants submit herewith a "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made," which indicates the specific amendments made to the claims. Support for new claim 39 and amendments to claim 1 can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. *No new matter has been added.*

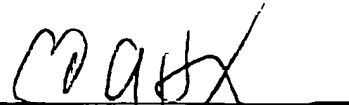
Any amendments or cancellation of the claims was done solely to expedite prosecution of the application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the claims as originally filed in this or a separate application(s).

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Respectfully submitted,

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP



Elizabeth A. Hanley, Esq.
Reg. No. 33,505
Attorney for Applicants

28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
Tel: (617) 227-7400
Dated: June 18, 2001

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

Claims 3-8, 20-24, and 34-38 have been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* encoding a phosphoenolpyruvate: sugar phosphotransferase system protein, or a portion thereof, ~~provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F designated genes set forth in Table 1~~ comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, and SEQ ID NO:29, or a complement thereof.

Claim 39 has been added as follows:

39. (New) An isolated *Corynebacterium glutamicum* polypeptide, or portion thereof, comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, and SEQ ID NO:30.